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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/516,965	02/11/2005	James Smith	93437	8572
24528	7590	05/19/2008		
WELSH & KATZ, LTD 120 S RIVERSIDE PLAZA 22ND FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606				
EXAMINER				
CROUSE, BRETT ALAN				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1794				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/19/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/516,965

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Brett A. Crouse

Art Unit

1794

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 January 2008.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 22-27 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-27 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 December 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment, filed 16 January 2008, which cancels claims 1-21 and 28-38, and amends claims 23, 26 and 27. Claims 22-27 are pending.

Response to Amendment

2. The rejections set forth in the office action of 16 July 2007 are overcome by the amendment, filed 16 January 2008.

3. The objection to claims 31 and 34-38 is overcome, by the amendment filed 16 January 2008, due to cancellation of claims 31 and 34-38.

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baillie et al., WO 02/075205, in view of Vakil, US 5,634,820.

Art Unit: 1794

Baillie teaches:

As to claim 22:

Page 2, lines 5-10, teach that the light fittings are used in proximity to an artificial light source and comprise a luminescent material which is charged by the light emitted by the light source and which emits light when the light source is extinguished. This is held to teach that the luminescent material satisfies the limitation of a phosphor of the instant invention.

Page 4, line 20 through page 5, line 7, teach that the light fittings of Baillie include light and lamp shades, light reflectors, light bulbs, light tubes including fluorescent light tubes, covers of light sources, strip light protective sleeves. The passage additionally teaches that the articles can be covered in part or in their entirety.

Page 5, lines 11-13, teach the light fitting can be in proximity to the light source. This is held to encompass being spaced from the light source.

Page 6, lines 12 through page 7, line 7, teach that the base material should preferably be of high clarity to allow transmission of light. The passage additionally teaches that the luminescent material can be incorporated into the base material or can be provided as a film or coating upon the base material.

Page 11, lines 9-15, teach the fitting providing connection pins for a fluorescent tube.

Baillie does not teach:

Baillie does not provide a teaching of friction fit end piece as part of a sleeve encompassing a fluorescent tube. However, Baillie does provide a fluorescent tube in which the mounting (i.e. the fitting of Baillie) encompasses the tube by being integral

with the tube and provides connection pins for the fluorescent tube as part of the mounting. Baillie also teaches sleeves which can encompass a light tube.

Vakil teaches:

Claims 5 and 10, figure 2, teach a friction fit end cap to a fluorescent light fixture.

Motivation:

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a sleeve encompassing a light tube as taught by Baillie which employs friction fit end pieces such as taught by Vakil, which allow the connection pins of the light tube of Baillie to penetrate to allow connection to a socket as taught by Baillie so as to enable the application of the sleeve, which can encompass up to the entire tube, to a light tube by providing an opening in the sleeve and end pieces for completely encompassing the tube once the tube has been inserted into the sleeve thus providing a means to use the frictional attachment of the end cap to secure the sleeve upon the light fixture.

As to claims 23-25:

Page 5, line 14 through page 6, line 2, teaches the fitting can be formed from various base materials including glass and plastics. Examples of suitable plastics include acrylics, polyolefins such as polypropylene, polystyrene and polycarbonate.

As to claims 26 and 27:

Page 3, lines 4-9, teach that the luminescent material is preferably a rare earth metal such as europium. Additionally, the luminescent material preferably also comprises an alkaline earth metal, which is preferably strontium.

Page 6, lines 5-11, teach that the preferred embodiment of the luminescent material comprises europium or dysprosium preferably in combination with strontium oxides or aluminates. It is held that one of ordinary skill in the art would at once envisage the luminescent material comprising strontium aluminate(s) and europium.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brett A. Crouse whose telephone number is (571)-272-6494. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton I. Cano can be reached on 571-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. A. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 1794

/Dawn Garrett/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794